Exclusion of Indian Products by US under GSP

1309. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US General System of Preference (GSP) has excluded a number of product groups of interest to India like textiles, clothing, leather products, chemicals and pharmaceutical items and articles of jewellery which is causing serious concern to India;

(b) whether these items were excluded on the basis of unilateral trade actions which are not consistent with the sprit of multilateral trade regime; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken in this regard for inclusion of these products under GSP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) The US Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) is a unilateral scheme which provides for exclusion of items "on 'Competitive Need Limits' and other grounds. Some product groups of interest to India like textiles, clothing, leather, products, chemicals and pharmaceutical items and articles of jewellery have been excluded from the US GSP scheme on 'Competitive Need Limits' and other grounds. Government has requested for 'De Minimis' waiver under the US GSP scheme for eligible products and also has been requesting the US Authorities bilaterally in various forums for inclusion of various product groups of interest to India under the US GSP Scheme.

हिमाचल प्रदेश के कुल्लू जिले में सांसद स्थानीय-क्षेत्र विकास निधि योजना

1310. श्री महेश्वर सिंह : क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वर्ष 1994-95 के दौरान सांसद स्थानीय क्षेत्र विकास निधि योजना के अंतर्गत हिमाचल प्रदेश के कुल्लू जिले में विभिन्न विकास कार्यों हेतु कुल कितनी धनराशि की अनुशंसाएं की गई थी,

(ख) योजना-वार खर्च की गई धनराशि का ब्यौरा क्या है और प्रत्येक विकास कार्य की अद्यतन स्थिति क्या है, और

(ग)उन विकास कार्यों का ब्यौरा क्या है जो पूर्ण हो चुके हैं तथा जिन्हें अभी आरंभ किया जाना है और इसके क्या कारण है ?

योजना और कार्यकाल कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बलराम सिंह यादव): (क) से (ग) अपेक्षित सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है तथा उसे सदन के पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा।

Suggestion for Panel on Trade and Tariff

1311. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report appearing in the 'Hindu' dated 8th November, 1995 under the caption 'Exporters suggest panel on Trade and Tariff ;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal received and reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) what is the present status of the proposal/other suggestions received from experts regarding administrative policy changes suggested to boost up exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Federation of Indian Exports Organisations (FIEO) has recently submitted an Export Strategy Paper for achieving exports of US $ 100 billion by 2001. In the Strategy Paper, FIEO have suggested setting up of National Commission on Trade & Tariff (NCTT) to oversee, arbitrate and ensure coordination in the decisions of the Central Government and the State Governments among other measures. It may however be stated that export promotion is a continuous process and steps are taken to boost exports in